

## **Iowa's Rich Tradition in Upholding a Legacy of Diversity**

**Washington, Feb 29 -**

From the Montgomery Bus Boycott to the Greensboro sit-ins, Americans have born witness to our country's ability to rise above adversity and achieve civil justice. During the month of February we take time to pay a special tribute to these historical moments, celebrating the great achievements of African-Americans, and recognizing the necessity for ensuring equality and justice for all.

That's why I'm so proud to represent the First District where we have created a legacy of diversity and a mark in history. In Black Hawk County, James Jackson became the first African-American to be elected to the Iowa State legislature and Ruth Anderson became the first African-American female elected to the Board of Supervisors.

This legacy continues outside of the District and extends throughout the state. Iowa is home to Lulu Johnson, the first African-American woman to receive a PhD and to Jack Trice Stadium at Iowa State University, the only Division 1-A football stadium to be named in honor of an African-American.

It's these types of firsts that inspire me to continue standing up for people of all backgrounds, fighting for justice, and giving the voiceless a voice. I will do what I can not only during the month of February, but year round, to honor the achievements of African-Americans and all those who fought to make advancements for our diverse society by standing up for the working families of eastern Iowa as their representative in Washington.